

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Goudhurst**  
**c/o The Church Office, Back Lane, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1AN**  
**Registered Charity No 1175082**  
**Trustees' Annual Report**

**St Mary's Goudhurst Book of Reports: May 2025 to March 2026**

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## **1. Introduction from Vicar Rachel**

Dear Church

Thank you for taking the time to read our Book of Reports for the period May 2025 - March 2026. Thank you to those who have prepared these reports, and for all who serve God in many and varied ways. As 1 Corinthians 12:12 says, 'There is one body, but it has many parts.'

These reports detail finance, governance and goals relating to St Mary's. As GK Church we have two PCCs, two buildings but we are one church. As St Mary's, our worship, our ministry and our direction, is interwoven with Christ Church - sharing the same vision.

## **GK Church - our vision**

Jesus was asked: what is the greatest commandment? His response guides our overall vision and purpose:

“You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”  
This is the greatest and first commandment.  
And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.”  
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’  
(Matthew 22: 37-40).

This reminds us of who we are, and why we do the things that we do.

Alongside this we have identified **five characteristics of our church life** that we feel God has gifted to us to shape our actions and our reflections on how and where He wants to be at work.

1. **Who is our God?** That we would develop in our understanding of who God is through study of His word and be able to articulate this confidently.
2. That we are called to **go deeper with God**, establishing really deep faith foundations.
3. That church has the element of **campfire** about it: welcoming, with space to share stories, a place for all to gather, visible to those from afar who may be drawn to the edge of the campfire - and open to the power of the Holy Spirit.
4. As GK Church, we are to be **beacons of Christ's light**, one of many beacons in the area, as Christ's saving power transforms the nation and the world.
5. That one by one, we would see people come to know God and his love, and be able to confidently declare, **‘I am the Lord’s.’**

#### **Life of the Parish of St Mary's: A flavour of our extraordinary ordinary life through the year**

- Weekly services to worship God: Thursday Morning 10am Holy Communion, Sunday 8 o'clock said Holy Communion and the 10:45 (Holy Communion alternates with a service of the word, Worship for Everyone). Groups for children and young people are offered at the 10:45 on Holy Communion weeks
- Annual rhythm of services throughout the church year (Advent to Remembrance)
- St Mary's specials: beach trips, New Year's Day walk, Gaudete Sunday, clipping the church)
- Safeguarding and safer recruitment
- Weekly small groups
- Communication (including the weekly GK News and the monthly Parish magazine)
- Prayer life, including our monthly prayer meeting (the first Wednesday every month and the GK emergency prayer chain - a WhatsApp with 75 people praying).
- Baptisms, confirmations, weddings, vow renewals and funerals and the pastoral care around key life events
- Anna Chaplaincy (focusing on pastoral support to those of older age)
- The Weald Family Hub (provision of subsidised professional mental health counselling to children in 11 local primary schools)

- Home Communion visits
- Meal Train (meals provided to those under particular pressure)
- Community Cupboard (a food bank serving the local community)
- Financial giving to others including through the mechanism of the Community Care Fund (providing temporary financial assistance to those in crisis/ emergency need) and donations to local, national and international charities as part of our commitment to tithing
- Community Lunch
- Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Life Skills courses
- Café Toddlers (weekly parent/carers and toddlers group)
- Crafty Mondays
- Gatherings for children and youth (e.g. gingerbread house decorating, worship nights, film nights)
- Alpha
- Goudhurst and Kilndown Primary School connection including weekly collective worship and involvement from several church family as governors
- Community and fundraising (for ourselves or others) including The Goudhurst Fête and Dog Show, FOSM Christmas Fair, Dinner dance
- Care of the church building, grounds and fabric from ironing altar linens to checking there's oil in the tank
- Conferences, Christian festivals, and worship days elsewhere in the UK
- Men's and Women's ministries

We are blessed to have the opportunity to work with several partners and value these relationships highly including: Friends of St Mary's (FOSM), Lunch Club, Weald Deanery churches and their Vicars, Sacred Heart church, Goudhurst Parish Council, Goudhurst Pre-school, Goudhurst, Kilndown & Lamberhurst bell ringers, the Goudhurst branch of the Royal British Legion, Goudhurst Scouts, the Old Parsonage Surgery, Cranbrook Bakery, Angela Jones and many others. Goodwill extended by Mr Ryan Laker & staff at the school, the Quarry Centre, Ladysden, the Star & Eagle, Weeks Bakery, Burgess Stores and many other businesses and individuals is most humbling.

### **Three areas of focus**

In October 2025, the PCC articulated that alongside our existing outreach and areas of ministry, three areas would be given particular attention and focus in the year ahead.

#### **1. Small groups and participation *Going Deeper***

In the medium term our goal is that 50% of our church family would be in a small group.

#### **2. Small groups leaders, Sunday group leaders *Going Deeper***

We are disciples following Jesus. How can we refresh leaders? Equip them? Train others? Grow disciple making disciples?

### 3. Prayer life *Going Deeper / Campfire / Who is our God?*

How can the conversation with God be something that we all experience more of? How can we hear from God together?

These focus areas are in addition to the extraordinary ordinary of our daily life and what I continue to see is that through our regular worship we are filled up by word, sacrament and Spirit, equipped to carry Christ's light wherever it is needed.

### **Thank you**

Thank you all for learning more about who God is so that we can be more confident in who we are as his children. Thank you for investing in your relationship with God so that your roots extend more deeply. This will help you in times of trial and also give you access to the deepest source of joy. Thank you for sharing your lives with one another so that we can spur each other on, be authentic, and experience the wonder of God's story being written.

We are called as the people of God to be a blessing in this part of the world at this time, for His glory. All of us are part of that. Thank you for saying yes to God and the ways in which you give glory to God in who you are. Some of this is seen in the tasks undertaken to make church 'run.' Thank you for those things being done with care and love, from the person who makes sure the wheelie bins are out on the street for collection each week, to the one who welcomes home communion being brought to them, in order to share being church together. Thank you to those serving in one of the ministry areas we are able to offer, and those whose ministry doesn't have a recognised title.

Thank you for shining Christ in the daily lives you lead. You have much influence, whether you are flying to different parts of the world or praying with a friend over the phone. Thank you that you are eager and excited to see more and more come to know Jesus as Lord. I'll never grow tired of that. Each one matters.

For the last five years as your Vicar, I have witnessed our one true living God draw us into His works of goodness. I'm excited that God delights in us participating in and benefiting from His Kingdom work of transformation and grace. I am well supported in my role by you as an amazing team. I am so privileged to be walking with you.

Recently we reminded ourselves of God's delight in creation at the beginning of Genesis. God saw what He had made, and it was 'very good.' May you hear God's voice of affirmation and encouragement to you as a member of the body of Christ here.

With thanks, love, anticipation and trust,

Rachel

**Vicar St Mary's Goudhurst with Christ Church, Kilndown**

## **2.**

### **Activities of the PCC prepared by Huthrie Copplestone and Barney Mayhew**

The PCC is the governing body of the church and Charity Trustees. We met regularly throughout the year.

The Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 defines the principal function of the PCC as "promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical." It also says that the PCC has a duty to "consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish."

Our responsibilities include thinking about the mission of the church and how it can continue to grow; continuous improvement of safeguarding; employment of staff; financial oversight; accountability; and keeping within charity law.

The PCC has put prayer and thought into most of the activities described elsewhere in this report. Sometimes it is a relatively simple case of saying yes to a proposal and supporting it with encouragement or funds. At other times it may not be so obvious, or there is a dilemma or difficulty that requires prayerful discernment. We often pray for wisdom to help us as we discuss and make decisions.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). In line with Diocesan guidelines, safeguarding is an agenda item at every PCC meeting, and PCC members undertake appropriate training.

During the past year, the PCC has included the following members:

Rachel Robertson (Vicar)  
Grace Wain (Churchwarden)  
Chris Williams (Churchwarden)  
Martin Loy (Deanery Synod representative)  
Ali Williams (Deanery Synod representative)  
Emma-Louise (Huthrie) Copplestone (Secretary)  
Claire Cooke  
Denis Darvill  
Simon (Sam) Davis  
Wes Hinsley  
Justin Hsuan  
Dave Lodge (Treasurer)  
James (Barney) Mayhew  
Kat Ogden (ordinand)  
Richard Vinton  
Gill Wallis-Hosken  
Phil Wright

The Standing Committee of the PCC has delegated authority to carry out the work of the PCC between meetings, within certain limits. The Standing Committee for 2025-6 were Revd Rachel, Grace Wain, Chris Williams, Wes Hinsley, Kat Ogden, Dave Lodge, Barney Mayhew, Ali Williams.

### 3.

**The Financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2025 prepared by Dave Lodge, approved by the PCC on 23 February 2026, independently examined by Graham Langlay-Smith - see attached report.**

### 4.

**Property, fabric, goods and ornaments of the church report prepared by Churchwardens Chris Williams and Grace Wain including a report on the Church Rooms prepared by James Wickham**

## **Church building**

One of the various responsibilities of being a Church Warden is the care and maintenance of the church buildings, goods and ornaments. This report will focus mainly on the fabric of our buildings where there has been the majority of activity in the preceding 12 months.

### **The Quinquennial Report (QR)**

The last QR was produced by Clague LLP (Architects) in August 2023. The QR's main conclusion was that St Mary's is generally in a very well-maintained condition compared to other churches not least because of the extensive external masonry repairs undertaken following the previous Quinquennial, generously funded in part by the Friends of St Mary's.

The main areas identified as needing attention were:

1. The interior kitchen wall where damp coming through from the outside had led to peeling paint. Clague's initial suggestion was trenching work externally to try to limit damp ingress.
2. The interior West-facing toilet wall where again damp ingress has resulted in flaking plaster. Clague's suggestion was that the Camellia tree planted just outside this section be cut back to minimize the risk of damp ingress prior to repair works being conducted. The pruning of the Camellia has been done, arranged by James Wickham.
3. In addition to the above, Clague identified a number of minor plastering, masonry and glazing repairs which, while not urgent, could logically be packaged with the two items above to create a meaningful workload to interest a contractor.

Due to urgent repairs required to tiles in the nave sinking resulting in a trip hazard (see below) work on the three points above has not progressed but will be a priority in the next 12 months.

### **The nave floor**

In May 2025, the sound of running water was heard in the vicinity of the sound desk. Upon lifting the floorboards underneath the last row of the central bank of pews, a severely corroded pipe (part of the heating system) was revealed. It was unclear how long the pipe had been leaking but it was obvious a substantial volume of water had drained into the ground under the flooring towards the west end of the church. Some weeks after the water supply to the pipe was switched off, the tiles in the aisle at the back of the pews started to subside, and in the following weeks this subsidence progressed. The tiles that had subsided became a serious trip hazard that had to be covered by a sheet of plywood. After a faculty was sought and approved, extensive discussions with the architect, our insurers, their appointed loss adjusters and a company of specialist plumbers, a repair to both the pipe and the flooring was completed in October 2025 and the heating system recommissioned. A successful insurance claim was made (£5,225 net of the compulsory excess of £250).

## **Church heating**

With the Church of England's drive to net zero in mind, we have started work on considering a long-term solution to the current heating system. The Diocese of Canterbury offered a free Energy Audit survey of the church building which was carried out in November 2025. The report was provided to us in January 2026. The findings are being discussed with members of the congregation who have professional knowledge of the subject matter and will carry on until we settle on the solution.

## **The Culpeper Effigies**

This project, owned and coordinated by the Friends of St Mary's, to conserve the Culpeper Effigies, was completed in September 2025. This project was a huge undertaking and has taken over 6 years to complete and will be brought to an official close by the visit of a minor working royal in July 2026. The new window which provides both UV and Infra-red protection looks spectacular and shows off the figures themselves to superb effect. Our thanks go to the Friends of St Mary's for funding the works and especially Pam Stubbs the Chair of the Friends at the time the project was conceived and to Ali Williams for successfully applying for several grants to help with the costs. It's not an overstatement to say the works are a legacy to the future generations of worshippers at St Mary's and to the wider village.

## **The Bells**

Damage to the Tenor Bell wheel resulted in an inspection of the bells in early 2025. This resulted in the recommendation of urgent works being needed to return the bells to a condition where they can be rung both safely and without struggle. This work includes, but is not limited to, replacement of the bearings, removal and reconstruction of a wheel, and replacement of clapper fittings. The Friends have offered to fund these works, and we are very grateful for their ongoing support. Permission to undertake the work has been granted and we are waiting for a start date from the company of specialist engineers appointed to carry out the works.

## **Goods and ornaments**

There are two main items to note regarding goods and ornaments:

1. The church silver and plate not used in regular services is held securely in a safe deposit box.
2. The Terrier detailing contents of the church and additions/deletions is held in the Church Office.

## **Thanks, and acknowledgements**

We would like to record our thanks to all of those who have helped us in our first year of office. In particular we thank James Wickham, whose knowledge of the idiosyncrasies of the building and for just getting things done, has been a huge support

## **Church Rooms**

The Church Rooms have had a successful year providing the venue for the village based Pre-School nursery and for renting out for functions. A big thank you to Jo Galloway for not only running the nursery, but also for coordinating the bookings for the rooms.

Pre-School bookings continue to attract pupils from within the village and beyond, with numbers remaining stable and the finances remaining stable despite funding changes. Thank you to Jo and her staff for making it such a welcoming nursery.

Work has continued to improve the fabric of the building with a new composite decking upgrade which will enable the children to spend more time outside in a safe environment as well as adding an estimated ten years to the life of the decking structure. Thank you to the Church for funding the majority of this with the Pre-School also contributing.

If you're interested in booking the Church Room for an event, please contact Jo Galloway.

5.

**Changes in the electoral roll since the last APCM prepared by Electoral Roll Officer, Shona Griggs**

The Electoral Roll should be revised annually and every sixth year the preparation of new Church Electoral Rolls takes place, which means that everyone must re-apply to be included on the Electoral Roll of their church. This occurred last year in 2025 when St Mary's Electoral Roll stood at 154, this remains unchanged in 2026.

6.

**Deanery Synod proceedings prepared by Ali Williams and Martin Loy**

St Mary's is part of the Canterbury Diocese in the Church of England. The Church of England has 43 Dioceses. The Rt Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin is the Bishop of Dover and the Bishop in Canterbury and was consecrated in 2019. The new Archbishop of Canterbury is Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally.

Canterbury Diocese stretches from Maidstone southwards and includes the Weald, Romney Marsh, Ashford, Dover, Thanet, Faversham, Sittingbourne and the Isle of Sheppey.

We are part of the Weald Deanery and meet as Deanery Synod (clergy and lay representatives) throughout the year. Martin Loy and Ali Williams are our Deanery representatives and Revd Rachel also attends.

Meetings between May 2025 and March 2026 rotated between different churches, highlights from the year include:

- A Deanery Roadshow was held in September at St Dunstan's, Cranbrook which included an address from Bishop Rose and three breakout workshops and a space to share good news from across the Deanery (of which there was much from GK Church!)
- At an open Deanery Synod in February at Sandhurst Mission Church we spent time getting to know Diocesan Secretary Iain Blythe, in post for 18 months, and newly appointed Archdeacon Revd Estella Last. We got to know about them as people and also had the opportunity to discuss various pertinent issues within the Deanery and Diocese, including Parish Share and Safeguarding.



## **Administrative information**

Bankers:

CAF Bank  
15 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

Nat West Bank  
58 High St  
Tenterden  
Kent  
TN30 6AX

Independent examiner:

Graham Langlay-Smith

Architects:

Clague Architects  
62 Burgate  
Canterbury  
Kent  
CT1 2BH

Signed:

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council

Name:

Dated:

St Mary's Parochial Church Council, Goudhurst

Accounts for the 12 Months Ended 31st December 2025

St Mary's Church PCC Goudhurst  
Accounts for the 12 Months Ended 31st December 2025

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		2025	2024
GENERAL FUND Income and Expenditure Account	<u>Notes</u>		
INCOME			
Incoming Resources From Donors			
Planned Giving		110,466	101,562
Collections and other giving		16,085	16,862
Card Machine - General Donations		809	303
Card Machine - Building Donations		492	603
Income Tax recovered	1	<u>32,667</u>	<u>31,518</u>
		160,518	150,849
Other Voluntary Income			
Restricted Donations & Legacies	2	-	-
Unrestricted Donations & Legacies	3	<u>6,794</u>	<u>7,728</u>
		6,794	7,728
Income From Investments			
Income from CBF Deposits and Investment Funds	4	<u>3,232</u>	<u>3,591</u>
		3,232	3,591
Grants and Insurance Claims Received			
Culpepper Tomb - Grants		16,000	-
Bell repairs - Insurance Claim (Transfer to FOSM)		5,270	-
Floor & Heating Repairs - Insurance Claim		<u>5,200</u>	<u>-</u>
		26,470	-
Transfer from Other Funds			
Transfer from Church Room Fund - for Kilndown Loo Fund		<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>
		5,000	-
Income from Operating Activities			
Sales of Parish Magazine		1,793	3,202
Magazine Advertisement Fees		4,172	3,961
Fees from Weddings and Funerals etc.		6,919	10,962
Fairware Clothing		64	561
Fund Raising	5	<u>12,999</u>	<u>3,351</u>
		25,947	22,037
TOTAL INCOME		<u>227,961</u>	<u>184,204</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Grants & Donations			
Contribution to Weald Family Hub		6,000	6,000
Local, UK and Overseas Mission Giving	6	8,810	8,491
Gift to Christchurch, Kilndown - Loo Project		<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>
		19,810	14,491
Activities relating to the Work of the Church			
Diocesan and Deanery Parish Share		85,588	79,221
Music including Organ and Organist		1,719	1,992
Service Consumables - printing, coffee, communion		2,345	2,837
Weddings & Funerals (including Diocesan share)		4,434	6,714
Clergy Expenses		915	967
Alpha, CAP, Marriage Course etc		963	1,239
Sunday Groups and Childrens/Youth work		684	839
Magazine Printing		<u>6,770</u>	<u>4,435</u>
		103,418	98,245
Church Running and Fabric Expenses			
Heating & Utilities		6,447	6,711
Insurance		9,046	8,810
Church Cleaning & Supplies		4,108	5,019
Repairs and Maintenance	7	10,946	6,816
QI Works	8	1,861	9,275
Culpepper Tomb Restoration		17,000	-
Transfer Insurance Proceeds to FOSM		5,270	-
Enhancements	9	<u>-</u>	<u>11,167</u>
		54,677	47,798
Church Management and Administration			
Church Office - Salaries, Printing Stationery, Telephone etc.	10	35,401	14,821
Safety Deposit Box at bank		830	750
IT and Social Media costs		<u>2,769</u>	<u>2,877</u>
		39,000	18,448
Costs of Operating Voluntary Income			
Fund Raising Events	5	<u>844</u>	<u>33</u>
		844	33
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>217,749</u>	<u>179,016</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		<u>10,212</u>	<u>5,188</u>
General Fund Balance at 1st January		<u>46,720</u>	<u>41,532</u>
General Fund Balance at 31st December		<u>56,932</u>	<u>46,720</u>

	2025	2024
COMMUNITY CUPBOARD (Restricted Fund)	<u>Notes</u>	
INCOME		
Donations received	12,441	20,852
TOTAL INCOME	<u>12,441</u>	<u>20,852</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Cost of produce purchased	7,594	6,862
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>7,594</u>	<u>6,862</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	<b>4,847</b>	<b>13,990</b>
Community Cupboard Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>15,417</u>	<u>1,428</u>
<b>Community Cupboard Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<b><u>20,264</u></b>	<b><u>15,417</u></b>

This fund continues to support a number of local families with provision of basic food and household items. A loyal group of helpers collect, purchase and deliver on a weekly basis. It also includes the weekly Community Lunch providing a hot meal and social space

	2025	2024
BEACON FUND (Restricted Fund)	<u>Notes</u>	
INCOME		
Donations received	2,832	2,872
	<u>2,832</u>	<u>2,872</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u><b>2,832</b></u>	<u><b>2,872</b></u>
EXPENDITURE		
Lay Minister Costs (including expenses)	8,151	15,777
Less: Receivable from Canterbury Diocese	<u>(7,580)</u>	<u>(13,222)</u>
	<u>570</u>	<u>2,555</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u><b>570</b></u>	<u><b>2,555</b></u>
<b>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>317</b>
Beacon Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>34,361</u>	<u>34,044</u>
<b>Beacon Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<u><b>36,622</b></u>	<u><b>34,361</b></u>

The Beacon Fund is a Restricted Fund. It was set up in 2017 to fund and support the appointment of a Lay Minister to develop work with local children and young people.

In 2025 Emma Simmonds commenced as Youth & Childrens Pastor. Canterbury Diocese are financially supporting this appointment on a sliding scale over the next four years

		2025	2024
WEALD FAMILY HUB (Restricted Fund)	<u>Notes</u>		
INCOME			
Donations received		26,373	38,836
Bank Interest received		79	107
St Mary's Goudhurst Contribution		<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
		32,452	44,944
TOTAL INCOME		<u>32,452</u>	<u>44,944</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Spurgeons Costs		33,692	37,340
Coordinator Salary and Expenses		14,854	10,962
Other Expenses		<u>60</u>	<u>2,184</u>
		48,606	50,486
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>48,606</u>	<u>50,486</u>
<b>(SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>(16,154)</b>	<b>(5,542)</b>
Weald Family Hub Fund Balance at 1st January		<u>52,185</u>	<u>57,727</u>
<b>Weald Family Hub Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	11	<b><u>36,031</u></b>	<b><u>52,185</u></b>

The Weald Family Hub was set up in 2018 to provide funding for Mental Health counselling in local schools and parent support, working through the Fegans charitable organisation (now part of Spurgeons). St Mary's employs the coordinator on a 2 days per week basis and acts as a centre for support in partnership with other churches in the Deanery and a number of local schools

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>PROJECTS FUND (Designated Fund)</b>	<u>Notes</u>	
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations received - Camp Bursary Scheme	550	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u><b>550</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Camp Bursary Scheme payments	99	-
Costs re Wall Repairs Project	<u>-</u>	<u>24,516</u>
	99	24,516
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u><b>99</b></u>	<u><b>24,516</b></u>
<b>EXCESS / (SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>(24,516)</b>
Projects Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>371</u>	<u>24,887</u>
<b>Projects Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<u><b>822</b></u>	<u><b>371</b></u>
Balance of funds at 31st December	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Wall Repairs Project retention	371	371
Camp Bursary Scheme	<u>451</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><b>822</b></u>	<u><b>371</b></u>

The retention for the Wall project was due in 2025, but we have not yet received a request for this. The balance has therefore been carried forward.

A number of donations were received in 2025 to support families attending the 2026 Wildfires Festival in July 2026. Only one bursary has so far been paid out - the balance of donations has been carried forward into 2026 to enable further bursaries to be made ahead of the festival.



	2025	2024
CHURCH ROOM FUND (Designated Fund)	<u>Notes</u>	
INCOME		
Contributions to the use of Church Room	10,060	9,064
TOTAL INCOME	<u>10,060</u>	<u>9,064</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Repairs and Maintenance	6,915	4,171
Insurance	539	874
Utilities	4,028	2,264
Cleaning	<u>87</u>	<u>1,096</u>
	11,569	8,404
Transfer to Other Funds		
Transfer to General Fund - for Kilndown Loo Fund	5,000	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>16,569</u>	<u>8,404</u>
<b>(SHORTFALL) / EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(6,509)</b>	<b>660</b>
Church Room Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>38,466</u>	<u>37,807</u>
<b>Church Room Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<b><u>31,958</u></b>	<b><u>38,466</u></b>

The Church Room Fund is a Designated Fund, held to ensure the ongoing maintainance and repair of the Church Rooms. £5,000 of the remaining balance was agreed by the PCC to be transferred to the General Fund - this was used to support the Loo Project at Kilndown Christchurch

		2025	2024
CARE FUND (Restricted Fund)	<u>Notes</u>		
INCOME			
Donations received		-	500
		-	500
TOTAL INCOME		-	500
EXPENDITURE			
Donations paid		6,017	7,041
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		6,017	7,041
<b>(SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>(6,017)</b>	<b>(6,541)</b>
Bank Balances at 1st January		20,225	26,766
<b>Bank Balances at 31st December</b>		<b>14,208</b>	<b>20,225</b>

The Care Fund was launched in 2023 to support local families with emergency support. This was funded by 2 significant donations received in 2022. During 2025 we paid out 19 (2024: 17) donations ranging from new kitchen appliances and oil supplies to support for car repairs

	2025	2024
LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND (Restricted Fund)		
INCOME		
Restricted Donations	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	-	-
EXPENDITURE		
Support Payments made	-	2,400
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	-	2,400
<b>(SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	-	<b>(2,400)</b>
Local Community Fund Balance at 1st January	-	2,400
<b>Local Community Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	-	-

The transactions included in this account are where donations are received through the church account to support specific needs and love gifts. They are not part of our normal church outreach.

One donation for £2,400 was received in the final week of December 2023 and paid out in early January 2024

There were no transactions recorded in 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
<b>SUMMARY OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>			
General Fund		10,212	5,188
Community Cupboard		4,847	13,990
Beacon Fund		2,262	317
Weald Family Hub	11	(16,154)	(5,542)
Projects Fund		451	(24,516)
Church Room Fund		(6,509)	660
Care Fund		(6,017)	(6,541)
Local Community Fund		-	(2,400)
		<u>(10,908)</u>	<u>(18,845)</u>
<b>BALANCE SHEET - SUMMARY OF BALANCES</b>			
General Fund		56,932	46,720
Church Room Fund (Designated)		31,958	38,466
Projects Fund (Designated)		822	371
Community Cupboard (Restricted)		20,264	15,417
Beacon Fund (Restricted)		36,622	34,361
Weald Family Hub (Restricted)	11	36,031	52,185
Care Fund (Restricted)		14,208	20,225
Local Community Fund (Restricted)		-	-
		<u>196,837</u>	<u>207,745</u>
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>			
Bank Balances - NatWest		72,597	33,869
Bank Balances - CAF Bank		19,584	92,712
Bank Balances - Shawbrook		10,489	10,417
Bank Balances - MetroBank		5,283	6,113
CCLA Deposit Account		68,687	65,713
CCLA Investment Account - cost	12	1,766	1,679
		<u>178,406</u>	<u>210,503</u>
Debtors and Prepayments		19,516	13,562
Creditors and Accruals		<u>(1,085)</u>	<u>(16,320)</u>
		<u>196,837</u>	<u>207,745</u>

The accounts are prepared on an Accruals basis

Note

1	Income Tax recovered	Income Tax is recovered on a monthly basis direct from HMRC		
2	Restricted Donations & Legacies	These are donations with uses specified by the donor		
3	Unrestricted Donations & Legacies	One (2024: one) donation of over £1,000 was received during the year; these donations did not contain any restrictions on use		
4	Income from CBF Deposits and Investment Funds	Income represents deposit account interest and dividend income received during the year		
5	Fund Raising	Income:	2025	2024
		Fete Takings and Share	4,470	3,351
		Dinner Dance	8,529	-
		Per General Fund	12,999	3,351
		Costs:		
		Fete	578	33
		Dinner Dance	266	-
		Per General Fund	844	33
6	Local, UK and Overseas Mission Giving	The list of charities supported during the year is as follows:		
		Porchlight	1,250	1,200
		Goudhurst Scouts	1,250	1,200
		Lend With Care	1,250	1,200
		Maidstone Samaritans	1,250	1,200
		TearFund	1,250	1,200
		Street Pastors - Tunbridge Wells	1,250	-
		Kent Kindness (closed in 2025)	-	1,200
		Bibles for GK Primary School & Preschool leavers	650	833
		Lunch Club - Hire of Parish Hall	655	452
		Other	5	6
		Total Payments	8,810	8,491
7	Repairs and Maintenance	Floor Repairs	5,501	-
		Heating System Repairs & Servicing	1,537	1,648
		Plumbing Repairs	-	1,662
		Electrical Maintenance and Repairs	820	3,384
		Fire Safety Maintenance	950	449
		Lightning Conductor Maintenance	144	114
		Roof Repairs	300	300
		Window Repairs	-	313
		Bell Tower repairs & redecoration	814	-
		Other (including VAT reclaim)	1,694	(1,054)
			10,946	6,816

		<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
8	Quinquennial Report	The latest inspection was carried out in 2022 with the report issued in 2023. A major item was the upgrade of the full electrical systems which was carried out in 2024.	
	Electrical works	-	11,130
	Architects Fees	1,861	-
	Less: VAT reclaims under Government Scheme	-	(1,855)
		<u>1,861</u>	<u>9,275</u>
9	Enhancements	Church heating upgrade	
		-	12,374
	Less: VAT reclaims under Government Scheme	-	(1,874)
	Office upgrade	-	668
		<u>-</u>	<u>11,167</u>
10	Church Office - Salaries, Printing Stationery, Telephone etc.	Office Staff Salaries	
		31,390	11,521
		Telephone	
		979	869
		Stationery, Printing etc	
		1,528	816
		Payroll Processing	
		792	792
		Other	
		712	823
		<u>35,401</u>	<u>14,821</u>
	2024 staff costs were lower due to only relating to a part year. In 2025 additional staff costs were incurred to support DBS and Safeguarding administration and other office work		
11	Weald Family Hub Fund	The Weald Family Hub (WFH) was set up in 2018 to provide support for young people and their families who are struggling with issues of mental health across the Wealden villages, working with the Fegans charitable organisation (now part of Spurgeons). St Mary's employs the coordinator on a 2 days per week basis and acts as a centre for support in partnership with other churches in the Deanery and local Primary schools. There are a number of regular donors to the Fund, together with donations from local fund raising events and charitable trusts. St Mary's has committed to continue financial support for this project	
12	CCLA Investment Account	The market value of the CBF Investment Fund was as follows:	
		31-Dec <u>2025</u>	31-Dec <u>2024</u>
	Number of shares held	137.11	133.30
	Value per share (pence)	2,219.83	2,312.27
	Market Value	£3,043.61	£3,082.36
	Original Cost of Shares plus dividend reinvestments	£1,765.55	£1,679.00
13	Physical Assets	The PCC is responsible for certain physical assets in St Mary's Church both fixed and movable which are not detailed in the financial statements, but are covered by insurance	

**Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary's Goudhurst**

I report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 1 to 11

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute Of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr Graham Langlay-Smith  
Chartered Accountant  
Waller Hill Farmhouse  
Grandshore Lane  
Frittenden  
Kent TN17 2DB

date 2026

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13th February 2026